NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



Interpretation Number: 00-07

Date: 01 February 2007 (updated 16 January 2008)

Pamphlet Number: Title 156, NE. Accessibility

Guidelines

Section(s): 4.1.3 (9)

Comments:

Number of required accessible exits

Question: What is the requirement for the total number of accessible exits?

Response: For *new* construction the total number of required accessible exits is based on the total number of <u>required</u> exits for Life Safety. All the required exits shall be accessible. The requirement for exits does not include accessible entrances requirements.

For **existing** construction, only if the exits are being modified, will the exit be required to be made accessible, to an extent that is feasible.

Definitions to clarify the requirement.

Egress, Means of- A continuous and unobstructed way of exit travel from any point in a building or facility to a public way. A means of egress comprises vertical and horizontal travel and may include intervening room spaces, doorways, hallways, corridors, passageways, balconies, stair enclosure, lobbies, horizontal exits, courtyards. *An accessible means of egress is one that complies with these guidelines and does not include stairs, steps or escalators.* Areas of rescue assistance or evacuation elevators may be included as part of accessible means of egress for multi-level building only.

Accessible route- A continuous unobstructed path connecting all accessible elements and spaces of a building or facility. *Interior* accessible routes may include corridors, floors, ramps, elevator, lifts and clear floor space at fixtures. *Exterior* accessible routes may include parking access aisles, curb ramps, crosswalks at vehicular ways, walks, ramps and lifts.

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